



Communicable Disease News

TRANSITION TO 4TH GENERATION HIV RAPID TESTING

The Communicable Disease Unit is transitioning from 3rd generation to 4th generation rapid HIV tests for participating providers.

Why 4th generation?

Rapid 4th generation tests are tests that detect both HIV antibodies and p24 antigen. They are referred to as combination ab/ag tests and can detect HIV infection sooner than 3rd generation (antibody-only) rapid tests. Using the 4th generation testing algorithm can also help distinguish acute infections. The 4th generation testing algorithm can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/HIVtestingAlgorithmRecommendation-Final.pdf>

Keep an eye out for updated HIV rapid test policies, procedures, and training requirements. If you have questions, please contact Brittany Wardle.

*Happy
New
Year!*

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IMPORTANT DATES

- January: Cervical Health Awareness Month
- February 7: National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- February 14: National Condom Day

NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PREVENTION

Gonorrhea continues to impact the health and well-being of many of our Wyoming residents. In 2016, we saw another increase in reported gonorrhea infections. The number gonorrhea infections has increased each year since 2012. 2017 is a new year – one with opportunities for us to combat the spread of gonorrhea. We want to encourage you to be

vigilant in your communities. Work with your community healthcare providers, partners, and patients. Provide education and prevention messaging to those at risk in your community.

Below are some important reminders about preventing, screening for, and treating gonorrhea.

“The number of gonorrhea infections has increased each year since 2012”

NEW FORMS

The CDU has a new Supply Order Form and Funding Opportunity Form which can be found at the links below.

Valentines Day, also known as National Condom Day, is a great day to host prevention or testing events with a funding opportunity! Funding opportunities can be used to increase testing, distribute condoms, support policy development/change related to HIV/STD/hepatitis prevention, and support prevention efforts geared toward HIV-positives.

Supply Order Form: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/>

Funding Opportunity Form: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/hiv-prevention-program/>

Prevention Strategies

Abstinence
Use condoms
Limit number of sex partners
Mutual monogamy

Gonorrhea Screening Recommendations – CDC

Women	Sexually active under 25 years of age Sexually active 25 years and older if at increased risk Retest 3 months after treatment
Pregnant Women	All pregnant women under 25 years of age and older women if at increased risk Retest 3 months after treatment
Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM)	At least annually for sexually active MSM at sites of contact (urethra, rectum, pharynx) regardless of condom use Every 3-6 months if at increased risk
Persons with HIV	For sexually active individuals, screen at first HIV evaluation, and at least annually thereafter More frequent screening might be appropriate depending on individual risk behaviors and the local epidemiology

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/screening-recommendations.htm>

Gonorrhea Treatment

Recommended Regimen:

Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM in a single dose PLUS Azithromycin 1 g orally in a single dose

Alternative Regimen:

Cefixime 400 mg orally in a single dose PLUS Azithromycin 1 g orally in a single dose

CASE MANAGER'S CORNER

It is that time of year when individuals are thinking about New Year's resolutions. Each year quitting smoking is one of the most common resolutions; however, most individual do not have a plan for success. Tobacco use is a critical issue for all of us, especially people living with HIV. Studies show that HIV-positive individuals are much more likely to smoke than those who are HIV-negative. Smoking rates of people living with HIV are estimated to be two to three times higher than the national average. Smoking cigarettes may affect HIV in several ways. Smoking is associated with:

- A decreased response to antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- An increased possibility of experiencing side effects of HIV drugs
- A greater chance of developing opportunistic infections (OIs).
HIV positive smokers are approximately three times more likely to develop the AIDS-defining pneumocystis pneumonia (PCP).
- Oral thrush is also more common amongst smokers.

Research has shown that as few as 3 minutes of counseling has an impact on cessation rates. Encourage your clients to quit. A pharmacologic and behavioral method to help patients quit can be downloaded at <http://www.mpaetc.org/MPAETC/media/MPAETC/Product%20Downloads/tobacco.pdf>. If cost is a concern, there are several no-cost and low-cost programs available to help Wyoming residents. Contact the Wyoming Quit Tobacco program at <https://wyo.quitlogix.org/default.aspx>.

Sources: <http://www.aidsmap.com/Smoking/page/1045157/>

<https://www.aids.gov/hiv-aids-basics/staying-healthy-with-hiv-aids/taking-care-of-yourself/smoking-tobacco-use/>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3248054/#R69>

MONTHLY SERIES: THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPORTANCE OF DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

What is surveillance?

The ongoing systematic collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of health data essential to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice.

Public Health Surveillance is a key public health practice in which diseases are recorded, tracked, and monitored to detect outbreaks and protect and improve public health.

What is a case definition?

Disease information is reported by laboratories and providers and are recorded by public health staff in accordance with case definitions.

A case definition is a set of uniformly applied criteria for determining whether a person has a particular disease or condition. Case definitions help ensure that all conditions are accurately and reliably counted and recorded.

To view case definitions for notifiable conditions, visit: <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/case-definitions.html>

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